

Message Text

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45

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03

RSC-01 USIA-12 PRS-01 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-15 SSC-01 RSR-01

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R 251125 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL UDORN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4709

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 4610

NOFORN

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, LA

SUBJ: NEW GOVERNOR OF SAVANNAKHET PROVINCE

1. MINISTER OF INTERIOR PHENG PHONGSAVAN HAS ANNOUNCED THAT CABINET MEETING, JUNE 13, NAMED PHAGNA BOUN SIGNAVONG AS NEW CHAO KHOUENG (GOVERNOR) OF SAVANNAKHET PROVINCE, SUCCEEDING PHAGNA SISOUVAN. (SISOUVAN WILL BECOME CHAO KHOUENG OF KHAMMOUANE PROVINCE, REPLACING BOUNLIENG CHOUNRAMANY, WHO IS FOR CAUSE BEING RECALLED TO MINISTRY OF INTERIOR.)

2. SISOUVAN HAS NOT PLAYED PARTICULARLY HELPFUL ROLE IN RELATIONS WITH THAI, NOTABLY IN RIVER- CROSSING DISPUTE AT SAVANNAKHET LAST YEAR. HIS SUCCESSOR, BOUN, MAY BE ABLE TO WORK MORE HARMONIOUSLY WITH HIS THAI COUNTER-PART. BOUN IS A CIVIL SERVANT WITH MORE THAN A QUARTER CENTURY EXPERIENCE IN PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION IN SOUTH LAOS. HE SERVED A TERM IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY REPRESENTING WAPIKHAMTHONG, AND IS CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH SOUTHERN RIGHTISTS (WE UNDERSTAND HE WAS PROPOSED FOR SAVANNAKHET JOB BY MINISTER SISOUK). HE HAS REPUTA-
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TION FOR INTELLIGENCE AND HARDWORK.
DEAN

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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